

year's receipt of Rs. 11.39 lakhs. A slight improvement in our export trade is also expected. The Excise Duty on Matches is expected to bring in Rs. 1 lakh more than the receipts of the current year. Under Education the expected increase is mainly under school fees which were temporarily reduced from Kanni last. The improvement anticipated under Willingdon Water Works is due to the expected realisation of a revenue of Rs. 1.09 lakhs in the next year as against Rs. 25 of a lakh only in the current year as previously explained.

EXPENDITURE CHARGED TO REVENUE.

11. The budget proposals of the several departments for the next year have been carefully scrutinised both by the Government and the Standing Finance Committee and provision has been made for the normal expansion of the several departments. The important nation-building activities were also considered and funds provided as far as possible. The programme of expenditure charged to revenue for the next year is thus estimated at Rs. 249.12 lakhs. This is Rs. 16.17 lakhs more than the revised estimate for the current year. I shall now deal with the more important items.

12. *Land Revenue.*—Besides for the retention of a portion of the existing temporary staff for Jenmikaram Settlement work which is expected to be completed before the close of next year, provision has also been made for an additional temporary staff for the recovery of Jenmikaram. The survey budget includes a provision of Rs. 12,510 for the survey and demarcation of about 10,000 acres of land in the Pallivasal Pakuthy sanctioned for registration for cardamom cultivation to bonafide Travancoreans at a concession rate of tharavila of B. Rs. 60 per acre. This also includes the survey of the 500 acres of land proposed to be reserved for the purpose of a Sanatorium at Pallivasal.

13. *Forests* :—It has been found that the teak wood poles available in the forests of the State could with advantage be substituted for iron poles for the construction of the 11 K. V. transmission lines in connection with the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Project, by subjecting them to a special treatment known as the *Ascu* treatment to prevent them from deterioration due to the attacks of fungus and other insects. The treatment consists in the impregnation of a special compound of arsenic and copper under pressure into the wooden poles. In view of the substantial saving expected from the use of such wooden poles, provision has been made in the Forest budget for the training of an officer in *Ascu* treatment of timber and for the purchase of the necessary accessories for the purpose.

Mention was made last year of the possibilities of opening a Paper Mill at Alwaye or Thattakad by utilising the eatta available in the forest areas between Pallivasal and Neriamangalam. The Titaghu. Paper Mills of Calcutta have proposed the opening of a pulp and paper factory at Alwaye, subject to the condition of the eatta available in

[Mr. C. S. Krishnaswami Aiyar.]

the State being found satisfactory, on being tested in their laboratory at Calcutta. It is therefore proposed to send about 50 tons of eatta to the company for experiment and provision has been made for the purpose.

14. *General Administration.*—The Account department of the State was organised on the present lines about 30 years ago when it was decided that the Account Officer should also discharge the functions of the Financial Secretary *Ex-Officio*. On a careful review of this arrangement in the light of the expanding activities of the Government, it is felt that the time has come for the separation of the two appointments; and in fact such separation has been urged by the members of the Legislature on more occasions than one. While it is the duty of the Account Officer to watch the scrupulous observance of the rules and orders of the Government, the Financial Secretary is himself a part of the Government charged with the duty of advising them in the Financial administration of the State. Further, in the present constitution of the State, the Legislature through its two Committees *viz.*, the Public Accounts and the Finance Committees participates in the financial administration of the State. The Financial Secretary's position has thus become much more responsible and onerous than it was 30 years ago, when the appointments of the Financial Secretary and the Account Officer were combined in one and the same person. For these reasons Government propose to organise an independent Financial Secretariat and for this purpose a lump sum provision of Rs 15,000 is included in the budget.

15. *Education.*—The allotment for the next year is Rs 48.13 lakhs, which is Rs 1.59 lakhs in excess of the anticipated expenditure of the current year. The Committee of technical experts and businessmen who met in connection with the proposal for the introduction of a course of technological study in the State held the unanimous opinion that early steps should be taken for the introduction of the practical alternative courses recommended by the Education Reforms Committees. As the introduction of such alternative courses in all the High Schools of the State simultaneously is not practicable until sufficient experience has been gained as a result of experiment, it is proposed to make a modest beginning by opening a separate division of Form V in the S. M. V. School, Trivandrum in the school year 1935—36 followed by a separate division in Form VI in the school year 1936—1937. These divisions will be outside the English School Leaving Certificate scheme and the course of studies will consist of the Industrial arts of wood, glass and metals, of Accountancy and Book-keeping and of Mathematics and English. The students will be apprenticed to different business concerns during their training course. A sum of Rs 4,000 is provided in the budget for this experiment which, it is hoped, will give an impetus to technical education. Provision has also been made in the Education budget for the opening of the Malayalam Honours course in His Highness the Maha Raja's College of

Arts. The introduction of a State Library System has also been provided for with a view to prevent lapses into illiteracy and also to provide facilities for adult education.

16. *Agriculture and Fisheries.*—At the instance of the Agricultural Conference held at Quilon in March last, it is proposed to create a Board of Agriculture consisting of official and non-official members. The Board shall review the work of the Agricultural Department in its various stages and suggest new problems for research and devise fresh methods for propaganda work. It is hoped that the appointment of this Board will be of real use both to the department and to the public in bringing the departmental officers into closer contact with the non-official public and enabling them to discuss important questions connected with Agriculture. The Agricultural budget includes a small provision for the grant of travelling allowances to the non-official members of the Board. The opening of a Sugar Cane Farm in South Travancore for carrying on intensive propaganda for the improvement of sugar cane cultivation in the State has also been provided for. It is also proposed to appoint a staff of two Marketing Officers in co-operation with the Government of India in their scheme for the improvement of marketing in India.

17. At present the Fisheries of the State are under the immediate administrative control and direct supervision of the Director of Agriculture. But, in view of the immense possibilities for the development of fisheries under closer supervision and control, it is considered necessary that the Fisheries Branch of the department should be placed under the immediate supervision of a technically qualified officer, the Director of Agriculture continuing however, to exercise general supervision. For this and for the installation, as an experimental measure, of a cold storage plant at Trivandrum for the preservation of fish, a provision of over Rs 12,000 has been included in the budget for the next year.

18. *Industries* budget includes provision for the opening of new sub-agencies at Calcutta, Poona, Karachi and Ahmedabad, as also for the continuance of the Trade Agent and the Sales Depot at Bombay. A provision of Rs 90,000 has also been made for the working expenses of the Government Rubber Factory. A receipt of Rs 50,000 is also expected from the sale of the manufactured articles.

19. *Medical.* There is at present no Specialists' cadre in the Medical department of the State, though the department is not wanting in Specialists in one branch or other of the Medical Science. These specially qualified officers have now to take rank along with those in the general cadre. It is, however, considered that the working of the department could be made more efficient if the Specialists are detached from the general cadre and placed in a separate self-contained special cadre created for them. An allotment of Rs 4,050 has therefore been included in the next year's budget for the necessary readjustments in connection with the creation of the Specialists' cadre of Medical

[Mr. C. S. Krishnaswami Aiyar.]
 Officers. The opening of a Tuberculosis Sanatorium in the State has been under consideration for some time past. But, as the scheme is costly it may take some time to materialise. Meanwhile in view of the increasing number of tuberculosis patients in the State, it is proposed to open a tuberculosis hospital in the first instance at Nagercoil and a sum of Rs 12,000 is provided in the budget for the acquisition of the necessary lands. Two additional wards and a subsidiary operation theatre have recently been added on to the General Hospital, Trivandrum, to provide for the considerable increase in the number of inpatients in that institution. A small additional staff is also to be appointed to cope with the consequent increase of work.

20. *Co-operative Department*.—The various reforms suggested by the Co-operative Enquiry Committee for the better working of the department will receive the attention of Government after the Committee's Report has been discussed by the two Houses of Legislature. A provision of Rs 10,000 for the amelioration of the depressed classes in the State is also included in the budget.

21. *Public Service Commissioner*.—This time last year, the House was told that the report of the Public Service Recruitment Committee appointed to enquire into and report on the question of recruitment to Public Service was engaging the attention of Government. Since then, an officer of high standing was appointed to examine the question in all its aspects and submit a report on the principles to be followed by Government in their future policy in the matter. He was also asked to prepare a scheme for the constitution of a Public Service Commission for the State. This Officer submitted his report to Government in March last. The report has been carefully considered by Government. They are of opinion that the institution of a central authority for recruitment to Public Service will dispose of many of the objections raised against the method of appointment resorted to by the departmental officers. But, at the same time, they consider that owing to the comparatively small size of the State and the quantity of work to be turned out, there is no necessity at present for an expensive Public Service Commission. An officer of high status has therefore been appointed as the Public Service Commissioner to hold office for a period of three years. The scheme will be worked tentatively for three years, at the end of which the position is proposed to be reviewed in the light of the conditions then existing. The provision required in this connection is made in the budget.

22. *Standardization*.—Closely allied to the question of bringing all recruitments to the Public Service to a common basis is the question of the standardization of salaries. The House is aware that Government have already sanctioned certain proposals for standardizing the pay of the officers of the State service. This scheme, apart from being a measure of ultimate retrenchment of expenditure, is also found to be a necessary preamble to the proper functioning of the Public Service Commissioner. Before the standardization, the number of varying scales of pay was so large that any attempt at laying down definite

principles for recruitment to Public Service on a common basis, would have been beset with considerable difficulties. The rearrangement of the large number of different scales of pay into a much smaller number of groups has, however, removed these difficulties and it is hoped that with these facilities, the Public Service Commissioner will find it possible and easy to so adjust recruitment to Public Service as to give, as far as possible, equal chances to men with equal qualifications.

23. *Public Works.*—The allotment for ordinary Public Works expenditure in the next year including establishment charges and Tools and Plant is Rs. 36.46 lakhs as against the current year's budget grant of Rs. 32.48 lakhs. When the estimated expenditure on Capital works and the expenditure met out of the Irrigation and Road Development Funds and the Reproductive Works executed by the Electrical Department are also taken into account, the budget grant for the next year for works of public utility would amount to Rs. 95.70 lakhs. Full details of the works in progress and new works are given in the Appendix to the budget estimates. The allotment for the new works includes Rs. 2 lakhs for the construction of the Council Chamber and that under works in progress includes Rupees one lakh for works in connection with the Town Planning Scheme and Rs. 50,000 more for extensions and investigations of other Town Planning Schemes.

CAPITAL SCHEMES.

24. *Water Supply.*—The question of supplying good drinking water to all the important Municipal towns in the State, where there is scarcity of good water, has been engaging the anxious attention of Government for some time past. A water supply scheme for the Trivandrum town was taken up first. The first stage of the Scheme has practically been worked out, except the High Level Service Reservoir which is nearing completion. The Town Water Supply has been commenced and it was found to be of immense relief to the people during the unusual draught of this year. The preliminary works for starting the second stage of the Town distribution system are in hand and the working out of this stage and the lying out of the water works premises are proposed to be taken up next year.

25. The Municipalities of Nagercoil, Skencottah and Alleppey have also been urging the need for supplying good water. In view of the hardships to which the people in these three Municipal towns are put to for want of good water, it is proposed to extend the supply of protected water to these Municipal towns also. But having regard to considerations of economy and the resources of the Municipalities, the Water Supply Schemes for the three mofussil towns in question cannot obviously be on as liberal a scale as for the Capital town. The Scheme will be restricted to street supplies, that is to say, supply of water through public street taps alone, with no house connections at present. If the supply be restricted as above, an average per capita allowance of 7 to 15 gallons per diem is all that would be required. On this basis, the three schemes are expected to cost roughly Rs. 25 lakhs in all—Rs. 2 lakhs for Nagercoil, (Rs. 4½ lakhs for the low level include 1)